

In re Application of: Weihai Chen
Serial Number: 09/511,025

8. (Original) A computer-readable medium as in claim 6, wherein the second communication protocol is the Internet Printing Protocol (IPP).

9. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure having:

a first data region containing data representing a header portion of a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) ~~communication~~ packet, including authentication request data representing a request by a client to form an authenticated HTTP connection with a server, the authentication request data formatted to cause prompt a server not recognizing the authentication request data to respond with a pre-defined error message; and

a second data region containing data representing a data portion of the HTTP ~~communication~~ packet.

10. (Canceled) A computer-readable medium as in claim 9, wherein the communication packet is formatted according to the Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP).

KW 11. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium as in claim ⁹~~10~~, wherein the authentication data identify represent a method defined in the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) under the Hypertext Transport Protocol.

12. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure having:

a first data region containing data representing a header portion of a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) ~~communication~~ packet, and

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a second data region containing data representing a data portion of the communication packet, including authentication request data representing a request by a client to form an authenticated HTTP connection with a server, the authentication request data formatted to cause ~~prompt~~ a server not recognizing said authentication request data to respond with a pre-defined error message.

13. (Canceled) A computer-readable medium as in claim 12, wherein the communication packet is formatted according to the Hypertext transport Protocol (HTTP).

KV 14. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium as in claim ¹²~~13~~, wherein the data in the second data region represent communication data formatted according to the Internet Printing Protocol (IPP), and the authentication data identify ~~represent~~ an operation under the Internet Printing Protocol.

15. (Currently amended) A method of communication for a client to force a server supporting both authenticated and non-authenticated network connections under the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) to establish an authenticated HTTP network connection, comprising the steps of:

sending, by the client, a HTTP connection request packet to the server, the HTTP connection request packet including authentication request data indicating a request for forming an authenticated HTTP connection with the server,

checking, by the server in response to receipt of the HTTP connection request packet, whether an authenticated HTTP connection with the client exists;